

U.S. Department of Agriculture Foreign Agricultural Service

WTO and Agriculture What's at Stake for Oklahoma?

October 1999

Oklahoma produces agricultural goods that are exported worldwide. In 1998, the state's farm cash receipts totaled \$3.9 billion and exports reached an estimated \$427 million, up from \$316 million in

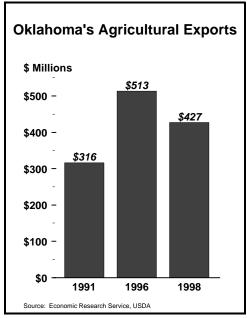
1991. These exports help boost farm prices and income, while supporting about 6,500 jobs both on and off the farm in food processing, transportation and manufacturing. Exports are increasingly important to Oklahoma's agricultural and state-wide economy. Measured as exports divided by farm cash receipts, the state's reliance on agricultural exports ranged from 8 percent to 11 percent since 1991.

The top five agricultural exports in 1998 were:

- # wheat and products -- \$212 million
- # poultry and products -- \$51 million
- # feed grains and products -- \$37 million
- # soybeans and products -- \$33 million
- # cotton -- \$25 million

World demand for these products is increasing, but so is competition among suppliers. If Oklahoma's

farmers, ranchers, and food processors are to compete



successfully for the export opportunities of the 21st century, they need fair trade and fair access to growing global markets.

Oklahoma Producers Benefit from Trade Agreements

- # Oklahoma, a large wheat producer, benefits under the Uruguay Round from a 33-percent reduction in the quantity of EU wheat receiving export subsidies by 2000. Japan is expanding its 5,530,000 ton tariff-rate quota by 35,000 tons annually from 1995 to 2000.
- # With a large portion of its farm receipts coming from the cattle industry, Oklahoma benefits from the Uruguay Round with a 38-percent reduction in the quantity of EU beef receiving export subsidies by 2000. Japan is reducing beef tariffs from 50 percent to 38.5 percent. Korea will eliminate its beef import quota by 2001 and reduce its tariffs to 40 percent by 2004. The Philippines is reducing its beef tariff from 60 percent to 35 percent.
- # As a poultry producer, Oklahoma should benefit under the Uruguay Round as Korea grants unlimited access for frozen chicken at a 20 percent tariff by 2004. Poland opened market access equal to 8.5 percent of domestic consumption. The Philippines opened a tariff-rate quota for 14,000 tons of chicken, which will reach 23,500 tons by 2004.